

AMENDMENTS

In the claims:

Please amend claim 74 and add new claims 75-100 as shown below and in the appendix.

C 74. (Amended) A device according to any one of claims claim 22, 26, 27, and 28, wherein the composition further comprises an inhibitor of smooth muscle cell growth or migration.

C2 75. (New) A method according to any one of claims 1, 2, 10-17, 49-51, 57-58, and 63-69, wherein the VEGF-C polypeptide comprises a continuous portion of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 sufficient to bind, and stimulate phosphorylation of, at least one receptor selected from the group consisting of VEGFR-2 and VEGFR-3, in cells that express said at least one receptor.

76. (New) A method according to claim 75, wherein the polypeptide comprises amino acids 131-211 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

77. (New) A method according to claim 75, further comprising administering to said subject an inhibitor of smooth muscle cell growth or migration.

78. (New) A method according to any one of claims 1, 2, 10-17, 49-51, 57-58, and 63-69, wherein the polynucleotide comprises a nucleotide sequence that will hybridize to a polynucleotide that is complementary to the human VEGF cDNA sequence specified in SEQ ID NO: 1 under the following exemplary stringent hybridization conditions: hybridization at 42°C in 50% formamide, 5X SSC, 20 mM Na₂PO₄, pH 6.8; and washing in 1X SSC at 55°C for

30 minutes; and wherein the nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide that binds and stimulates at least one receptor selected from the group consisting of human VEGFR-2 and VEGFR-3.

79. (New) A method according to claim 78, further comprising administering to said subject an inhibitor of smooth muscle cell growth or migration.

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80. (New) A treatment according to claim 18, wherein the VEGF-C polypeptide comprises a continuous portion of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 sufficient to bind, and stimulate phosphorylation of, at least one receptor selected from the group consisting of VEGFR-2 and VEGFR-3, in cells that express said at least one receptor.

81. (New) A treatment according to claim 80, wherein the polypeptide comprises amino acids 131-211 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

82. (New) A treatment according to claim 18, wherein the polynucleotide comprises a nucleotide sequence that will hybridize to a polynucleotide that is complementary to the human VEGF cDNA sequence specified in SEQ ID NO: 1 under the following exemplary stringent hybridization conditions: hybridization at 42°C in 50% formamide, 5X SSC, 20 mM Na₂PO₄, pH 6.8; and washing in 1X SSC at 55°C for 30 minutes; and wherein the nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide that binds and stimulates at least one receptor selected from the group consisting of human VEGFR-2 and VEGFR-3.

83. (New) An improvement according to any one of claims 22-25, wherein the VEGF-C polynucleotide encodes a VEGF-C polypeptide that comprises a continuous portion of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 sufficient to bind, and stimulate phosphorylation of, at least one receptor selected from the group consisting of VEGFR-2 and VEGFR-3, in cells that express said at least one receptor.

84. (New) An improvement according to claim 83, wherein the polypeptide comprises amino acids 131-211 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

85. (New) An improvement according to any one of claims 22-25, wherein the VEGF-C polynucleotide comprises a nucleotide sequence that will hybridize to a polynucleotide that is complementary to the human VEGF cDNA sequence specified in SEQ ID NO: 1 under the following exemplary stringent hybridization conditions: hybridization at 42°C in 50% formamide, 5X SSC, 20 mM Na₂PO₄, pH 6.8; and washing in 1X SSC at 55°C for 30 minutes; and wherein the nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide that binds and stimulates at least one receptor selected from the group consisting of human VEGFR-2 and VEGFR-3.

86. (New) A medical device according to any one of claims 26-28, wherein the VEGF-C polynucleotide encodes a VEGF-C polypeptide that comprises a continuous portion of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 sufficient to bind, and stimulate phosphorylation of, at least one receptor selected from the group consisting of VEGFR-2 and VEGFR-3, in cells that express said at least one receptor.

87. (New) A medical device according to claim 86, wherein the composition further comprises an inhibitor of smooth muscle cell growth or migration.

88. (New) A medical device according to claim 86, wherein the polypeptide comprises amino acids 131-211 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

89. (New) A medical device according to any one of claims 26-28, wherein the VEGF-C polynucleotide comprises a nucleotide sequence that will hybridize to a polynucleotide that is complementary to the human VEGF cDNA sequence specified in SEQ ID NO: 1 under the following exemplary stringent hybridization conditions: hybridization at 42°C in 50% formamide, 5X SSC, 20 mM Na₂PO₄, pH 6.8; and washing in 1X SSC at 55°C for 30

minutes; and wherein the nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide that binds and stimulates at least one receptor selected from the group consisting of human VEGFR-2 and VEGFR-3.

90. (New) A medical device according to claim 89, wherein the composition further comprises an inhibitor of smooth muscle cell growth or migration.

91. (New) A kit according to claim 29 or 30, wherein the VEGF-C polynucleotide encodes a VEGF-C polypeptide that comprises a continuous portion of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 sufficient to bind, and stimulate phosphorylation of, at least one receptor selected from the group consisting of VEGFR-2 and VEGFR-3, in cells that express said at least one receptor.

92. (New) A kit according to claim 91, wherein the polypeptide comprises amino acids 131-211 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

93. (New) A kit according to claim 91, further comprising an inhibitor of smooth muscle cell growth or migration.

94. (New) A kit according to claim 29 or 30, wherein the VEGF-C polynucleotide comprises a nucleotide sequence that will hybridize to a polynucleotide that is complementary to the human VEGF cDNA sequence specified in SEQ ID NO: 1 under the following exemplary stringent hybridization conditions: hybridization at 42°C in 50% formamide, 5X SSC, 20 mM Na₂PO₄, pH 6.8; and washing in 1X SSC at 55°C for 30 minutes; and wherein the nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide that binds and stimulates at least one receptor selected from the group consisting of human VEGFR-2 and VEGFR-3.

95. (New) An extravascular collar according to claim 70, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a VEGF-C polypeptide that comprises a continuous portion of the amino

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APPENDIX OF AMENDED CLAIMS (SHOWING CHANGES)

74. (Amended) A device according to any one of claims claim 22, 26, 27, and 28, wherein the [composition] composition further comprises an inhibitor of smooth muscle cell growth or migration.

acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 sufficient to bind, and stimulate phosphorylation of, at least one receptor selected from the group consisting of VEGFR-2 and VEGFR-3, in cells that express said at least one receptor.

96. (New) An extravascular collar according to claim 95, wherein the polypeptide comprises amino acids 131-211 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

97. (New) An extravascular collar according to claim 70, wherein the polynucleotide comprises a nucleotide sequence that will hybridize to a polynucleotide that is complementary to the human VEGF cDNA sequence specified in SEQ ID NO: 1 under the following exemplary stringent hybridization conditions: hybridization at 42°C in 50% formamide, 5X SSC, 20 mM Na₂PO₄, pH 6.8; and washing in 1X SSC at 55°C for 30 minutes; and wherein the nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide that binds and stimulates at least one receptor selected from the group consisting of human VEGFR-2 and VEGFR-3.

98. (New) A unit dosage formulation according to claim 71, wherein the nucleotide sequence encodes a VEGF-C polypeptide that comprises a continuous portion of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 sufficient to bind, and stimulate phosphorylation of, at least one receptor selected from the group consisting of VEGFR-2 and VEGFR-3, in cells that express said at least one receptor.

99. (New) A unit dosage formulation according to claim 97, wherein the polypeptide comprises amino acids 131-211 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

100. (New) A unit dosage formulation according to claim 71, wherein the nucleotide sequence hybridizes to a polynucleotide that is complementary to the human VEGF cDNA sequence specified in SEQ ID NO: 1 under the following exemplary stringent hybridization conditions: hybridization at 42°C in 50% formamide, 5X SSC, 20 mM Na₂PO₄,